

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image output device for outputting a color of different tones on a medium, comprising:

a function for outputting on said medium test chart data having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color output changes in steps arranged alternately with tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is output;

input means for accepting tone information from said test chart output; and

adjusting means for adjusting output to said medium based on data for correcting said tone calculated from said tone information input.

2. An image output device for outputting a color of different tones on a medium, comprising:

a function for outputting on said medium test chart data having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color output changes in steps arranged alternately with tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is output, said test chart data comprising a first proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a specified first tone and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; a second proof part where the tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone greater than the first tone and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; and an intermediate proof part where the tone-fixed areas are output at a tone between said first and second tones and can be

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compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; and  
input means for accepting tone information on  
said first, second and third proof parts from the  
result of test chart data output on said medium, and  
adjusting means for adjusting output on said  
medium based on data for correcting said tone  
calculated from said tone information input.

3. An image output device for printing a color  
of different tones on a medium, comprising:

a function for outputting on said medium test  
chart data having tone-changing areas where a tone of a  
color to be printed changes in steps arranged  
alternately with tone-fixed areas where a predetermined  
tone of said color is printed, said test chart data  
comprising a first proof part where said tone-fixed  
areas are output at a first tone as a tone of a color  
of said medium and can be compared with tones of said  
tone-changing areas; a second proof part where the  
tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone greater  
than the first tone and can be compared with the tones  
of said tone-changing areas; and an intermediate proof  
part where the tone-fixed areas are output at a tone  
between said first and second tones and can be compared  
with the tones of said tone-changing areas;

input means for accepting tone information on  
said first, second and third proof parts from the  
result of test chart data output on said medium; and  
adjusting means for adjusting output on said

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medium based on data for correcting said tone calculated from said tone information input.

4. An image output device for printing a color of different tones on a medium, comprising:

a function for outputting on said medium test chart data having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color to be printed changes in steps arranged alternately with tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is printed, said test chart data comprising a first proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a first tone as a tone of a color of said medium and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; a second proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone as a highest tone printable by a printer and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; and an intermediate proof part where the tone-fixed areas are output at a tone between said first and second tones and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas;

input means for accepting tone information on said first, second and third proof parts from the result of test chart data output on said medium; and

adjusting means for adjusting output on said medium based on data for correcting said tone calculated from said tone information input.

5. An image output device according to claim 1, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part

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of said test chart are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

6. An image output device according to claim 2, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part of said test chart are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

7. An image output device according to claim 3, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part of said test chart are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

8. An image output device according to claim 4, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part of said test chart are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

9. A test chart, output from an image output device capable of outputting a color of different tones on a medium and having tone-changing areas where a tone of the color output changes in steps and tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is printed, and tone values of said tone-changing areas are readable, and wherein said tone-changing areas are arranged alternately with said tone-fixed areas, and wherein tone values can be read when a tone difference between adjacent areas of said tone-changing areas and

said tone-fixed areas is greater than a specified magnitude.

10. A test chart, output from an image output device capable of outputting a color of different tones on a medium and having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color output changes in steps and tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is printed, and tone values of said tone-changing areas are readable, said test chart comprising a first proof part where said tone-changing areas are arranged alternately with said tone-fixed areas, said tone-fixed areas are output at a first tone and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas, a second proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone greater than the first tone and can be compared with the tones of said tone-changing areas, and an intermediate proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a tone between said first and second tones and can be compared with the tones of said tone-changing areas,

wherein tone values having a difference in tone between adjacent pair of said tone-changing areas and said tone-fixed areas greater than a specified magnitude can be read at each of said first, second and third proof parts from results of test chart data output on the medium.

11. A test chart output from an image output device capable of outputting a color of different tones

on a medium and having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color output changes in steps and tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is printed, and tone values of said tone-changing areas are readable, said test chart comprising a first proof part where said tone-changing areas are arranged alternately with said tone-fixed areas, said tone-fixed areas are output at a first tone as a tone of said medium and can be compared with the tones of said tone-changing areas, a second proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone greater than said first tone, and a third proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a tone between said first and second tones, and the tones of said tone-changing areas with said tone,

wherein tone values having a difference in tone between adjacent pair of said tone-changing areas and said tone-fixed areas greater than a specified magnitude can be read at each of said first, second and third proof parts from results of test chart data output on the medium.

12. A test chart, output from an image output device capable of outputting a color of different tones on a medium and having tone-changing areas where a tone of a color output changes in steps and tone-fixed areas where a predetermined tone of said color is printed, and tone values of said tone-changing areas are readable, said table chart comprising a first proof

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part where said tone-changing areas are arranged alternately with said tone-fixed areas, said tone-fixed areas are output at a first tone as a tone of the color of said medium and can be compared with tones of said tone-changing areas; a second proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a second tone as a greatest tone printable by a printer and can be compared with the tones of said tone-changing areas, and a third proof part where said tone-fixed areas are output at a tone between said first and second tones and can be compared with the tones of said tone-changing areas,

wherein tone values having a difference in tone between adjacent pair of said tone-changing areas and said tone-fixed areas greater than a specified magnitude can be read at each of said first, second and third proof parts from results of test chart data output on the medium.

13. A test chart according to claim 10, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

14. A test chart according to claim 11, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.

15. A test chart according to claim 12, wherein said tone-fixed areas of said third proof part are arranged alternately with tone-changeable areas of said tone-changing areas in a tone-changing direction of the tone-changing areas.